

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 02004 011732Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 CU-02 PM-05 NSC-05  
SS-15 /057 W  
-----032729 011918Z /47

R 011630Z AUG 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5008  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2004

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGSC PGOV, WB, UR  
SUBJECT: SOVIET UNION AND HUNGARY DECLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN BERLIN  
INTERNATIONAL POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AUGUST 5-7

1. ON JULY 15 AND 16, STORIES APPEARED IN BERLIN NEWSPAPER  
TAGGESPIEGEL CLAIMING THAT SOVIET UNION, HUNGARY, AND YUGO-  
SLAVIA WERE GOING TO "BOYCOTT" AUGUST 5-7 INTERNATIONAL  
WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS IN WEST BERLIN ON BASIS OF "OTHER  
OBLIGATIONS" DESPITE EARLIER COMMITMENTS TO PARTICIPATE.  
YAGESSPIEGEL JULY 15 COMMENTED THAT WATER POLO EVENT IS  
THIRD ONE SCHEDULED FOR WESTBERLIN THIS YEAR FOR WHICH SOVIETS'  
ORIGINAL DECISION TO ATTEND MADE PURSUANT TO MARCH 1977  
MOSCOW SPORTS AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOVIET MINISTER FOR SPORTS  
PAVLOV AND GERMAN SPORT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT  
WEYER HAS BEEN TAKEN BACK. (TWO OTHER OCCASIONS REFERRED  
TO ARE APRIL 8 BICYCLING CONTEST AND AUGUST 26 ATHLETICS  
EVENT).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 02004 011732Z

2. BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CDU CAUCUS CHAIRMAN  
HEINRICH LUMMER HAS CALLED EASTERN EXPLANATION FOR  
WATER POLO NON-PARTICIPATION "CONCEIVABLY UNWORTHY  
OF BELIEF." HE BLAMED SOVIETS FOR NON-OBSERVANCE OF  
MOSCOW SPORTS AGREEMENT AND SUGGESTED THE HOLDING OF THE  
1978 BERLIN WORLD SWIMMING CHAMPIOSHIPS HAS LONG SINCE  
CEASED TO BE A SURE THING. SPORTS FUNCTIONARIES,

LUMMER INSISTED, SHOULD IMMEDIATELY PRESS MOSCOW FOR A CLEAR EXPLANATION.

3. SENAT HAS INVESTIGATED NEWSPAPER STORIES AND DOES NOT THINK THERE IS POLITICAL REASON BEHIND REFUSAL OF HUNGARIANS AND SOVIETS TO ATTEND AUGUST WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS. INVITATION FOR EVENT HAD COME FROM BERLIN SWIMMING ASSOCIATION AND SENAT COULD UNCOVER NO PRIMA FACIE GROUNDS FOR EAST BLOC OBJECTIONS; NOR DID BLOC RAISE ANY. ACCORDING TO SENAT, YUGOSLAVIA APPARENTLY HAS NOT REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE. A MEMBER OF YUGOSLAV MILITARY MISSION IN WEST BERLIN COMPLAINED TO BRITISH CONSUL HERE OF PRESS REPORT ERRONEOUSLY LUMPING YUGOSLAVIA TOGETHER WITH SOVIET UNION AND HUNGARY IN LISTING OF COUNTRIES RENEGING ON EARLIER COMMITMENTS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE WOULD HESITATE TO ASSERT WITH CONFIDENCE THAT THERE ARE NO POLITICAL MOTIVATIONS LURKING BEHIND SOVIET AND HUNGARIAN DECISION NOT TO TAKE PART IN AUGUST WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS IN WEST BERLIN, EASTERN SIDE HAS NOT RAISED FORMAL OBJECTIONS OF ANY SORT. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT TRUE SCHEDULING PROBLEMS ARE INVOLVED IN THIS EASTERN TURNDOWN. GEORGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOYCOTTS, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USBERL02004  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770275-0495  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197708108/aaaadoqg.tel  
**Line Count:** 85  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 4ff62150-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1426501  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET UNION AND HUNGARY DECLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN BERLIN INTERNATIONAL POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AUGUST 5-7  
**TAGS:** PGOV, WB, UR, HU  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4ff62150-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009